

Honorable Senators and Committee Members, Please vote to stop the funding and implementation of Common Core Standards. Common Core is not right for Michigan. It is simply not possible to legislate school or student success, as success is fundamentally not related to the difficulty of the standards set. Have the often documented shortcomings and failures of the Federal No Child Left Behind taught us nothing? Is the proliferation of charter, private, and home schooling families across our great state to be ignored? Again, districts already succeeding will succeed. Failing districts will continue to fail. The danger is that Common Core erodes State control over education, and in so doing erodes local control and the importance of parental input, not to mention student privacy. Although currently aimed at public schools, Common Core raises significant concerns for the future of charter, private, religious, gifted, special needs, and home school families. Another step toward Orwellian education, standardizing texts, tests, and teacher training with the National Common Core is our National government dictating curriculum content. History shows this to be dangerous. Michigan families - Michigan students - deserve better than special interest driven education. Vote no funding for Common Core!

Most Sincerely,
Monica A. Lesnau
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